Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 VALLET 02041 152152Z

71
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 TRSE-00 OMB-01

DRC-01 /168 W
---------- 110551
R 151604Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4848
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VALLETTA 2041

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, MT
SUBJ: LABOR MASS MEETING

1. MASS MEETING OF LABOR SUPPORTERS HELD OCT 13 ONLY MODERATELY SUCCESSFUL. EMBASSY LOCAL (EX-POLICEMAN) OBSERVED MEETING AND ESTIMATES ATTENDANCE AT NO MORE THAN 20,000 AS COMPARED TO ESTIMATED 4-5,000 WHO ATTENDED NATIONALIST SEPT 21 RALLY.

2. SPEAKERS WERE MLP PRESIDENT JOE ZERAFA, GWU PRESIDENT JOE BORG, GWU SECGEN GEORGE AGIUS, JUSTICE MIN BUTTIGIEG AND MINTOFF.

3. WHILE MINTOFF TOUCHED ON MIDDLE EAST, POINTING OUT DANGERS OF WAR AND STRESSING GOM NEUTRALITY ("ALL NATIONS BORDERING MED ARE OUR BROTHERS"), HE DEVOTED MOST OF HIS SPEECH TO DOMESTIC ISSUES. TAKING NATIONALISTS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 VALLET 02041 152152Z

TO TASK, MINTOFF TERMED CLAIM THAT MALTA ACHIEVED

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

TRUE INDEPENDENCE IN 1964 A MYTH. MALTA WILL ONLY BE
INDEPENDENT WHEN ALL FOREIGN FORCES LEAVE MALTA, WHICH
GOM'S SEVEN YEAR ECONOMIC PLAN INTENDED TO ACHIEVE.
GOM WILL THEN CHANGE INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION TO THAT DATE.

4. AMERICANS, GREEKS AND TURKS AND OTHERS USED TO
COME TO MALTA AND PAID NOTHING, BUT GOM FOUGHT
FOR ITS RIGHTS AND NOW RENT PAYMENTS CAME TO THE
GENERAL BANK "AT THE STROKE OF MIDNIGHT. ONE MUST NOT
SAY WE MADE FRIENDS WITH HMG, WE ONLY CAME TO AN AGREE-
MENT."

5. PROOF THAT INDEPENDENCE OBTAINED BY NATIONALISTS
ONLY A PAPER INDEPENDENCE CAN BE SEEN BY A LOOK AROUND
THE ISLAND. WHERE DOES ONE FIND TELEVISION,
REDIFFUSION, LARGEST COMMERCIAL BANK, TELEGRAPH SYSTEM
ALL IN FOREIGN HANDS. MABEL STRICKLAND AND HER TIMES
OF MALTA AS WELL AS CERTAIN BRITISH PAPERS CAME IN FOR
ATTACK. MINTOFF ALSO COMPLAINED ABOUT IL
HAJJA (CHURCH) FOR SOME OF ITS ARTICLES, AND CLAIMED
THAT POPE HAD STATED GOM POLICIES WERE SOUND (SIC).
HE WARNED HMG THAT ITS PRESS AND SOME OF LOCAL PRESS MUST
STOP THESE TACTICS. THERE IS NO GOVERNMENT IN WORLD
WITH ONLY ONE SEAT MAJORITY THAT HAS LASTED SO LONG.

6. TURNING TO POSITIVE ACHIEVEMENT OF LABOR GOVERNMENT,
MINTOFF NOTED HIGH LEVELS OF TOURISM AND EXPORTS,
LOW UNEMPLOYMENT "LESS THAN AT THE TIME OF LAST
ELECTION," IMPROVEMENT AT DOCKYARDS, NEW INDUSTRIES,
AND MORE AID TO THE NEEDY. GOVERNMENT PRODUCING MORE WORK
WITH FEWER EMPLOYEES; MORE CHILDREN IN SCHOOLS WITH
FEWER TEACHERS; RESERVES UP TO 115 MILLION MALTA
POUNDS, WITH ONLY 25 PERCENT IN STERLING AND REST IN
STRONGER CURRENCIES. BELT TIGHTENING IN PAST HAS
SERVED TO REPLACE FAT WITH MUSCLE.

7. GOM POLICY TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT IN PRODUCTIVE
SECTOR RATHER THAN SERVICE SECOTR. DESPITE GREAT
PRESSURE, NO MORE POLICE WOULD BE RECRUITED. "1200
IS ENOUGH, AND I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANY MORE COMPLAINTS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

ABOUT THIS."

8. COMMENT: SMALLNESS OF SITE CHOSEN FOR RALLY TO MAKE
CROWD APPEAR LARGER APPARENTLY A WISE MOVE AND RELATIVELY
POOR ATTENDANCE, DESPITE MLP AND GWU SUPPORT, MUST
HAVE BEEN DISAPPOINTING TO MINTOFF. HIS SPEECH ALSO
MUST HAVE BEEN DISAPPOINTING TO HIS SUPPORTERS IN
THAT IT WAS SIMPLY REITERATION OF HIS WELL KNOWN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

PEEVES AND CLAIMS OF ACHIEVEMENTS.
GETZ

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: smithrj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973VALLET02041
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: VALLETTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731031/aaaaawjo.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Sep-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <21-Nov-2001 by smithrj>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LABOR MASS MEETING
TAGS: PINT, MT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005